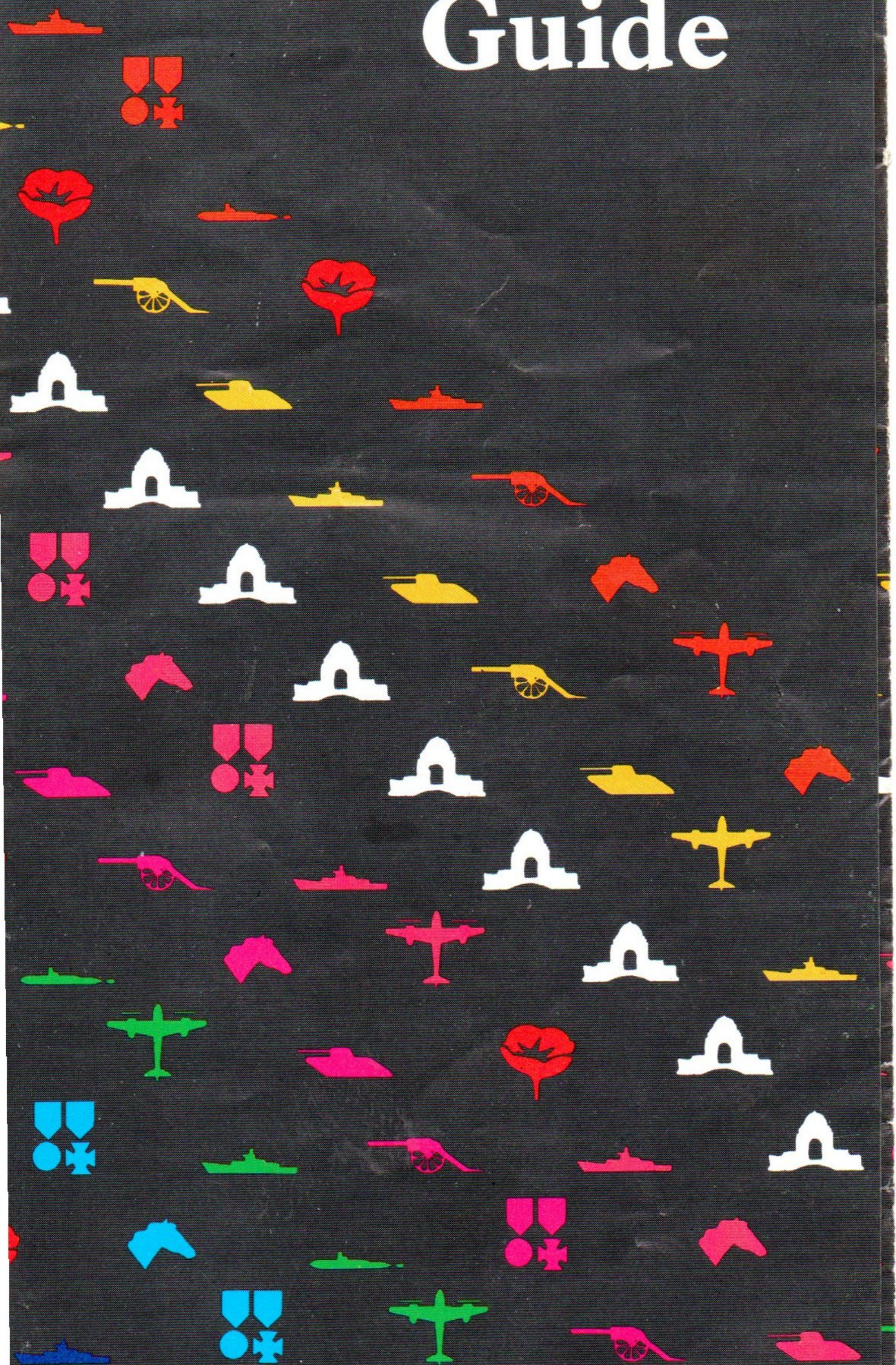


Australian War Memorial

Visitors Guide



The Australian War Memorial is the nation's tribute to the sacrifice made by Australian men and women who died serving their country in time of war, and to those who served with them. The commemorative area features the Hall of Memory and the Roll of Honour. The Memorial is the scene of commemorative ceremonies, as well as personal remembrance, throughout the year. The two major ceremonies are held on Anzac Day, 25 April, and Remembrance Day, 11 November.

The Memorial is also a museum and art gallery, and houses relics of wars in which Australians were involved, a magnificent art collection, and rich holdings of documentary and audio-visual material.

Drawing on its varied and fascinating collections, the Memorial is a significant centre of research into Australian military history and the impact of war on Australian society. Research is stimulated by the Memorial's annual research grants scheme and by its activities as a major publishing house.

At present the Australian War Memorial is undergoing two parallel and complementary aspects of redevelopment. The first involves a major renovation programme to improve education and visitor facilities, and the second involves the refurbishing of the galleries, many of which have remained substantially unaltered since the 1940s.

Building renovations:

When the Memorial was built in the late 1930s, it was designed to cater for an estimated 100 000 visitors annually. In 1981-82 the Memorial received just over one million visitors, and current visitor totals indicate that this trend is continuing. It is apparent, therefore, that the building's resources are completely inadequate to cater for such a significant increase in visitor numbers. The renovations, to occur in three stages, involve:

- the creation of a visitor foyer, rest rooms, education classrooms, a temporary exhibition gallery and other visitor facilities; and
- a major overhaul of the building.

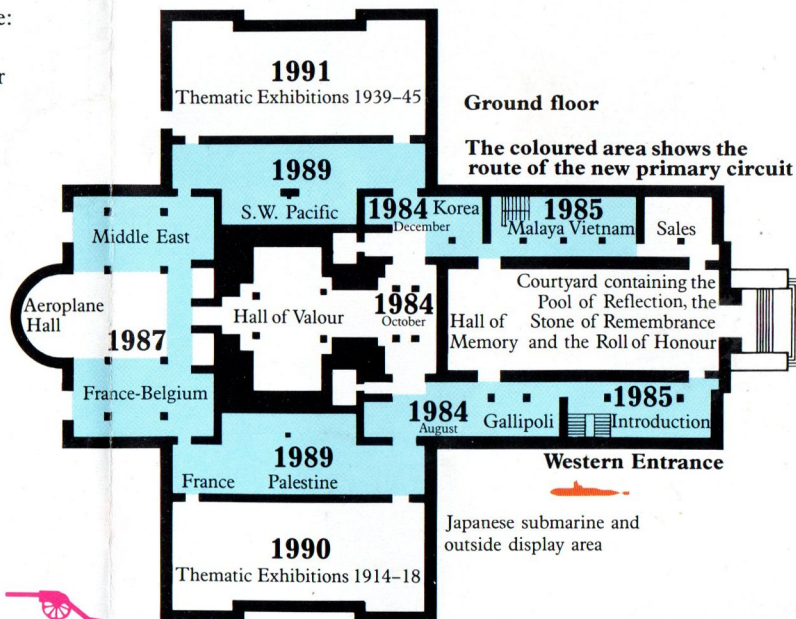


Alterations to galleries:

Visitor surveys indicate that some 70 per cent of visitors to the Memorial are under the age of forty and therefore have no direct knowledge of war. The original galleries were designed on the assumption that the displays would be seen by people who could rely on either their own memory of events or that of others. Since this is no longer the case, a programme of refurbishment has been initiated which will allow visitors to understand fully the history the Memorial has been created to display. The galleries, as a result, will be able to include modern display and graphic techniques, and will be designed around a systematic 'primary circuit' which will unfold for visitors the history of Australians at war in chronological order, moving logically from the 1914-18 war to later Asian conflicts.

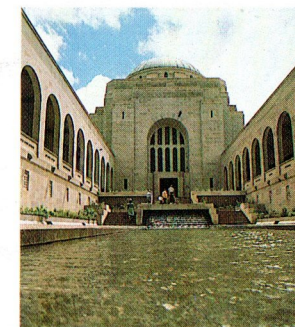
In 1984 the following areas will be affected:

- early in the year the front entrance will be closed off and visitors will enter by a secondary entrance on the western side of the building;
- two new classrooms and a theatre will be opened for use; and
- the Gallipoli gallery and the Korean gallery will be refurbished.



The Australian War Memorial apologizes for the inevitable closing of galleries and disruption to visitors which will occur during this period of change. Every attempt is being made to ensure that nothing will be done that is out of harmony with the original purpose or design of the building.

The map indicates the planned major stages of the renovation and refurbishment programme.



Groups:

School groups need to make a prior appointment only if educational services are to be used.

Disabled visitors:

Wheelchairs are available from the cloakroom. Ask uniformed security personnel for assistance.

Voluntary guides:

Free guided tours are available, usually on the hour.

Information:

For details of current exhibitions, film screenings and special events, enquire at the Information Desk.

Licensed kiosk:

Located outside and to the east of the building.

Bookshop:

Located to the right of the entrance. Books, cards, posters, reproductions, slides and gifts are available for sale.

Smoking and dress:

Visitors must be suitably attired. *No smoking or eating* is permitted in the galleries or in the commemorative area.

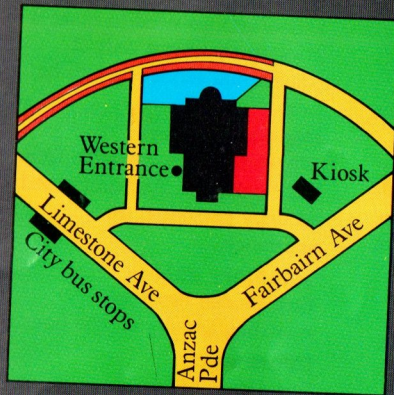
Lost and found:

Ask uniformed security personnel.

Cameras:

Taking of photographs is permitted only with hand-held camera and electronic flash. No photographs taken in the Memorial may be reproduced, distributed or sold without permission from the Memorial.

The Memorial is a non-profit educational and commemorative institution supported by government funds, sale of publications and public donations.



- Car parking
- Off-street car parking
- Coach parking

Transport:

Ample parking is available; and there is a bus service between the Memorial and the city on Mondays to Fridays. Route 302.

Mailing address:

GPO Box 345, Canberra, ACT 2601.

Hours:

From 9.00 a.m. to 4.45 p.m. every day of the year except Christmas Day.

Admission:

Free. Donations are gratefully accepted.

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